

## What is Fibersort?

Fibersort is an Interreg funded project based in NWE. The Fibersort technology automatically sorts large volumes of mixed post-consumer textiles by fibre type, and it does so with a high degree of accuracy. This development will provide a new market for low-value textiles and supply textile-to-textile recyclers with large volumes of quality-assured feedstock for their processes. Industry input is very important to the success of this project.

## Why the industry needs Fibersort

- Textiles require a tremendous amount of resources to create, including water, CO<sub>2</sub>, chemistry, and energy. All of this embedded value is lost when these materials are landfilled or incinerated.
- High value recycling technologies require a supply of precise and constant feedstocks (ie: old garments/textiles that have been sorted into specific fibre categories).
- There is not yet an efficient and automated textile sorting process, to create textile recycling feedstocks for these technologies.

## Impact for brands, retailers and manufacturers

- Consumers are more aware of fashion's negative environmental impact
- Resources are becoming increasingly scarce
- Fibersort is an exciting opportunity to close the loop in fashion

## Benefits for brands, retailers and manufacturers

- Create new markets for low-value textiles
- Increase the availability of sustainable textiles for the future

- Learn about a circular supply chains, recycling technologies and recycled fibres

## Goals of the Producer Network

- Present Fibersort technology for industry review and feedback
- Identify viable business models and end markets for recycled textiles
- Identify brand, retailer and manufacturer requirements for using recycled textiles
- Create a network of frontrunning organisations of brands, retailers and manufacturers to collaborate and close the loop on textiles

## Producer Network deliverables

- Remote or in-person working sessions
- **Matrix:** Product and performance expectations for recycled polyester and recycled cotton
- **Report:** Potential business models and end markets to increase the usage of recycled textiles (public)
- **Report:** Policy macro-trends and recommendations (Public)
- **Report:** Case studies of barriers and success factors for Fibersort uptake in NWE (Public)
- Preview and testing of [Circle Market](#)

## Types of stakeholders involved in the project

- **Producer Network:**
  - Apparel brands
  - Designers
  - Retailers
- **Working Group:**
  - Textile collectors
  - Textile sorters
  - Chemical and mechanical recyclers
- **Industry related NGOs**
- **Academia**

## Meetings and agenda items:

Timing	Task	Details
Q3 2017	Meeting 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Group Kick Off</b></li> </ul>
Q4 2017	Meeting 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Update:</b> Project progress</li> <li>● <b>Discussion:</b> Barriers to using recycled textiles and policy drivers for circularity</li> <li>● <b>Data Preview:</b> What's in post consumer textiles?</li> </ul>
Q1 2018	Event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Site Visit:</b> Smart Fibersorting</li> </ul>
Q2 2018	Meeting 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Update:</b> Project progress</li> <li>● <b>Discussion:</b> Business models and end markets for recycled textiles</li> <li>● <b>Tool:</b> Circle Market invitation</li> </ul>
Q3 2018	Meeting 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Update:</b> Project progress</li> <li>● <b>Review:</b> Performance expectations for recycled textiles (matrix)</li> <li>● <b>Discussion:</b> Policy</li> <li>● <b>Tool:</b> Circle Market update</li> </ul>
Q4 2018	Meeting 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Update:</b> Project progress</li> <li>● <b>Review:</b> Recycling trials, business models and end markets for recycled textiles</li> <li>● <b>Discussion:</b> Links between policy, business models, and end markets</li> </ul>
Q1 2019	Meeting 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Update:</b> Project progress</li> <li>● <b>Review:</b> Recycling trial results, business models and end markets</li> <li>● <b>Discussion:</b> Report concepts</li> </ul>
Q2 2019	Meeting 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Update:</b> Project progress</li> <li>● <b>Review:</b> Early report drafts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Business models and end markets</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Policy</li> <li>○ Barriers and success factors for Fibersort</li> </ul>
Q3 2019	Meeting 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Update:</b> Project progress</li> <li>● <b>Review:</b> Final report draft <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Business models and end markets</li> <li>○ Policy</li> <li>○ Barriers and success factors for Fibersort</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Q3 2019	Closing Event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Site Visit:</b> Smart Fibersorting</li> <li>● Project recap and closing</li> <li>● Final reports released</li> </ul>

**NOTE:** Meeting timing and agendas may be adjusted depending on project progress